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[redacted]**RWANDA-UGANDA: Objections to UN Border Force**

Delays in deploying a UN monitoring force along the Rwandan-Ugandan border are increasing the risk of renewed fighting between Tutsi rebels and the Hutu-dominated Rwandan Government, which fears another rebel offensive backed by arms delivered through Uganda. UN officials have completed preparations to station an 81-man observer force along the 90-mile border, according to press reports. [redacted] rebel leaders are reneging on their agreement to permit the observer force and have asked for a Security Council hearing. The rebels are also stalling the peace talks, [redacted]

**Comment:** Although the yearlong peace talks have been making steady progress toward a deadline this month on political, military, and humanitarian issues, the rebels' about-face over the monitors is making the distrust worse. They apparently have not abandoned a military option, but they probably will put off any offensive until they see what comes from the talks. Even if the border force is deployed, it probably could not curtail Uganda's support for the rebels without a clear mandate. [redacted]

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